

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Toxic Substances Control
Southern California Permitting
and Corrective Action Branch
1011 N. Grandview Ave.
Glendale, California 91201

Project Title: Southern California Gas Company Olympic Base, Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Renewal

Project Location: 2424 Olympic Boulevard, City of Los Angeles

County: Los Angeles

Project Description:

Southern California Gas Company's parent, Sempra Energy Utilities is renewing their permit for the Olympic Base Hazardous Waste Facility. The Olympic Base facility is a fourteen acre parcel which contains several owner operations and three lessee operations. The owner/operator is a natural gas distribution utility serving nearly all of southern and central California. The owner/operator maintains Gas Transmission and Measurement Sections and two vehicle fleet maintenance garages at Olympic Base. The lessees are involved in retrofitting and testing vehicles for natural gas.

The Olympic Base facility is used for storage of containers of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) containing hazardous waste from off-site owner facilities only. Three hazardous waste management units (HWMU) are permitted at this facility. They are described as follows.

- a) The PCB drum storage building, Building 8, is 55 feet long and 45 feet wide, encompassing 2,475 square feet. The floor is a continuous, smooth surfaced concrete slab with a 6 inch high perimeter curb. Access to the building is facilitated by sloping ramps on either side of the curb. The floor is coated with a wear and chemically resistant coating. The interior of the building is protected with an automatic foam fire fighting system. This unit has a maximum permitted capacity of 17,160 gallons or 312 - 55-gallon drums, whichever is less.
- b) The East Outdoor Storage Pad is 46.5 feet long and 21 feet wide. The area inside the containment trench is 976.5 square feet. The containment trench has a volume of 4,430 gallons. The pad is surrounded by the trench, which is 2.35 feet deep. The trench is covered with a flush grate. This unit has a maximum permitted capacity of 4,400 gallon or 80 - 55-gallon drums. The hazardous wastes stored in this unit are soils, solids and equipment contaminated from contact with natural gas pipeline condensate which may contain PCB.
- c) The West Outdoor Storage Pad is 46.5 feet long and 21 feet wide. The area inside the containment trench is 976.5 square feet. The containment trench has a volume of 4,430 gallons. The pad is surrounded by the trench, which is 2.35 feet deep. The trench is covered with a flush grate. This unit has a maximum permitted capacity of 4,400 gallon or 80 55-gallon drums. The hazardous wastes stored in this unit are soils, solids and equipment contaminated from contact with natural gas pipeline condensate which may contain PCB.

All the waste stored at the facility is ultimately shipped to a licensed TSCA facility for disposal. No bulking or consolidation is permitted at the site

Background:

Historical records indicate that gas was manufactured on a 4 acre parcel of the site starting in 1907. SCGC took over the operation in 1910. Prior to 1910, the plant was operated by the City Gas Company of Los Angeles and the Domestic Gas Company, both of which no longer exist. The plant produced gas until 1927, when SCGC began distributing 100% natural gas. From 1927 until 1952, the plant was on standby for occasional emergency gas manufacturing services only. In 1952, the plant was decommissioned.

In 1984, immediately after the discovery of contamination, the exposed soil at the Olympic Base was fenced and made inaccessible to SCGC employees. A consent order was issued by the predecessor of the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the Department of Health Services (DOHS), requiring the SCGC to prepare a

remedial action plan and a health risk assessment. The remedial investigation report was approved by the DOHS on September 18, 1987 and the health risk assessment was approved on June 4, 1990. The feasibility study report was approved on July 19, 1990. A remedial action plan was prepared by SCGC and was given approval by DOHS on April 25, 1991. The remedy selected was an asphalt cap over the contamination with annual O & M and permanent land use and deed restrictions.

As a condition of the original Hazardous Waste Facility Permit, a Phase 1 RCRA Facility Investigation Report was accepted by the DTSC on August 29, 1997. No further action was required. The facility is not on the Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites List pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Toxic Substances Control

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sempra Energy Utilities

Exemption Status: (check one)

- ☐ Ministerial [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(1); CCR, Sec. 15268]
- ☐ Declared Emergency [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(3); CCR, Sec. 15269(a)]
- ☐ Emergency Project [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(4); CCR, Sec. 15269(b)(c)]
- ☒ Categorical Exemption: 14 CCR, Section 15301
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions: [State code section number]
- ☐ General Rule [CCR, Sec. 15061(b)(3)]

Exemption Title: Minor Modifications to the Operation of an Existing Facility

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The project is an existing facility and the renewal of the Hazardous Waste Facility Permit allows the facility to continue operations for the next 10-year term of the permit. The allowed types and volumes of wastes handled and stored will not change. Also, no physical expansion of the facility is proposed. The reasons supporting our conclusion are:

1. The proposed renewal of the permit will not increase the hazardous waste storage capacity of the Facility. No changes are proposed either to the wastes codes currently permitted to be stored at the hazardous waste facility. The proposed renewal of the permit will not change the operation plan. The renewal of the permit will not affect the makeup of the personnel that manage the facility.
2. Although the facility was designed and built to TSCA standards, the site is exempt of the TSCA permitting requirements because the site is not a commercial PCB storage facility.
3. The facility is not located in an Alquist-Priolo fault zone. The building was fabricated with steel-reinforced concrete block construction in 1985. Reference: Los Angeles City Planning Department, Parcel Profile Report for Assessor Parcel no. 5168-002-800.
4. The facility is in an area zoned M3-1, Heavy Industrial, by the Los Angeles City Planning Department. Surrounding properties are also in industrial use and heavy commercial uses, including warehouses, railroad switch yards, an asphalt plant and gas stations. There are no schools or sensitive receptors within ¼ mile of the site. Reference: Los Angeles City Planning Department, Parcel Profile Report for Assessor Parcel no. 5168-002-800.
5. There are no historical or cultural resources at or in close proximity to the site.
6. No habitat areas or applicable habitat conservation plans affect the property which is largely paved and is zoned heavy industrial (M3-1) by the City of Los Angeles. There are no candidate, sensitive or special status species listed present or in close proximity to the site. Reference: City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning Parcel Profile Report for assessor Parcel no. 5168-002-800.
7. SCAQMD rules specifically exempt the facility from permitting any equipment associated with the storage of hazardous waste. Reference: South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 219(m)(9).
8. There are no water or waste discharges from the facility and the facility is not located within a 100 year flood hazard zone.

9. Because of the infrequent nature of shipment of hazardous waste to and from the facility, there is little or no impact on the already heavy truck traffic in the vicinity. Only one or two shipments per week will occur. They will be timed to avoid peak evening traffic congestion. Reference: 2004 Congestion Management Program for Los Angeles County, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, July 22, 2004.

William Jeffers, P.E.

Project Manager Name

Hazardous Substances Engineer

Project Manager Title

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Branch Chief SignatureDateSouthern California Permitting and
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Hazardous Waste Management Program

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